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Dec 12 2002

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masahiro SUZUKI et al.

Group Art Unit: 2612

Application No.: 08/859,276

Examiner: L. T. Nguyen

Filed: May 20, 1997

Docket No.: JAO 32382

For: INFORMATION INPUT APPARATUS AND METHOD

AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**RECEIVED**

**DEC 03 2002**

**Technology Center 2600**

Sir:

In reply to the July 31, 2002 Office Action, the shortened statutory period for reply being extended by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 32-35, 37-40 and 42-45 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application to pursue these claims.

REMARKS

Claims 1-31, 36 and 41 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 32-35, 37-40 and 42-45 are canceled. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

**I. THE CLAIMS DEFINE PATENTABLE SUBJECT MATTER**

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4, 10-17, 20-25, 28-31, 36 and 41 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent 4,937,673 to Saito et al. in view of U.S. Patent 4,660,102 to